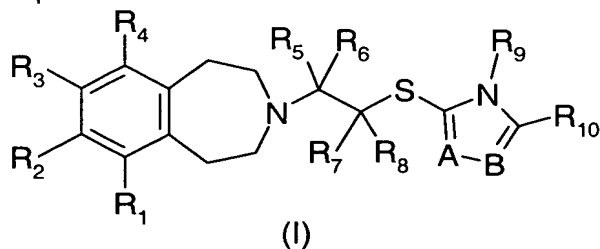


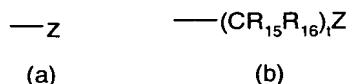
The present invention relates to novel compounds of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein

- $R_1$  and  $R_4$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo,  $C_{1-2}$ alkyl,  $C_1$ alkoxy, halo $C_{1-2}$ alkyl, halo $C_1$ alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano and nitro;
- $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are independently selected from the group consisting of:  
halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylthio,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxycarbonyl $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyloxy, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyl, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyloxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyl $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonamido,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonamido $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, aryl $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, aryloxy, arylthio, arylmethyl, aroyl, aryloxymethyl, arylsulfonyl, aryl-NR' (wherein R' is hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl), arylsulfonyloxy, arylsulfonyl $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, arylsulfonamido, arylcarboxamido, arylsulfonamido $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, arylcarboxamido $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, aroyl $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, aryl $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyl, a group  $R_{11}CON(R_{12})(CH_2)_r$ ,  $R_{11}R_{12}NCO(CH_2)_r$  or  $R_{11}R_{12}NSO_2(CH_2)_r$  (in which r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4, and each of  $R_{11}$  and  $R_{12}$  is independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, or in the groups  $R_{11}CON(R_{12})(CH_2)_r$ ,  $R_{11}R_{12}NCO(CH_2)_r$  and  $R_{11}R_{12}NSO_2(CH_2)_r$ ,  $R_{11}CONR_{12}$  or  $R_{11}R_{12}N$  together form a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered azacyclic group optionally containing one additional O, N or S atom in the azacycle and having 3-8 carbon atoms (including the carbon atoms contained in any optional substituent(s) of the azacycle)); wherein in any group containing an aryl moiety, the aryl may be substituted by one, two or three groups selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino,  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylenedioxy,  $C_{1-4}$ alkanoyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyl, halo $C_{1-4}$ alkylsulfonyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkylamino,  $C_{1-4}$ dialkylamino,  $R_{13}R_{14}NCO$  (in which  $R_{13}$  and  $R_{14}$  are independently hydrogen or  $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, or  $R_{13}R_{14}N$  together form a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered azacyclic group optionally containing one additional O, N or S atom in the azacycle and having 3-8 carbon atoms (including the carbon atoms contained in any optional substituent(s) of the azacycle));

- A and B are independently N or CH;
- R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub>, R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub> and R<sub>9</sub> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl;
- R<sub>10</sub> is a group of the formula (a) or (b):



wherein:

- Z is C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, phenyl, heterocyclyl, a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring or a 8- to 11-membered bicyclic group, any of which is optionally substituted by 1, 2, 3 or 4 substituents selected from the group consisting of: halogen, hydroxy, oxo, cyano, nitro, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylenedioxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulfonyloxy, haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulfonyl, haloC<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulfonyloxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylsulfinyl, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylthio, R<sub>17</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>N(R<sub>18</sub>)-, R<sub>17</sub>R<sub>18</sub>NSO<sub>2</sub>-, R<sub>17</sub>R<sub>18</sub>N-, R<sub>17</sub>R<sub>18</sub>NCO-, R<sub>17</sub>CONR<sub>18</sub>- and a 5- or 6-membered heteroaromatic ring which is optionally substituted by one or two C<sub>1-2</sub>alkyl, haloC<sub>1-2</sub>alkyl or R<sub>17</sub>R<sub>18</sub>N-(wherein R<sub>17</sub> and R<sub>18</sub> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, or R<sub>17</sub> and R<sub>18</sub> together form C<sub>3-6</sub>alkylene); and wherein substituents positioned *ortho* to one another may be linked to form a 5- or 6- membered ring; and
- R<sub>15</sub> and R<sub>16</sub> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl and t is 1, 2, 3 or 4, or -(CR<sub>15</sub>R<sub>16</sub>)<sub>t</sub>- forms a C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkylene linker;

processes for their preparation, intermediates used in these processes, pharmaceutical compositions containing them and their use in therapy, as modulators of dopamine D<sub>3</sub> receptors, e.g. as agents to treat various aspects drug dependency or as antipsychotic agents.